

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /138 W

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R 210816Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1195

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1250

US MISSION GENEVA 636

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 8139

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFRO, SREF, IN, PK, BG

SUBJ: PAKS DISAPPOINTED AT DELAY IN BEGINNING POW
REPATRIATION

REF: ISLAMABAD 8014

1. MFA SPOKESMAN TOLD PRESS SEPTEMBER 20 THAT GOP HAD
CONVEYED TO DELHI ITS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER INDIAN DECISION
TO DELAY BEGINNING OF POW REPATRIATION UNTIL SEPTEMBER 28
RATHER THAN COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 19 AT SAME TIME AS FIRST
BENGAL-EE-BIHARI EXCHANGE. SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT
TERMS OF AUGUST 28 DELHI AGREEMENT PROVIDED THAT POW
REPATRIATION AND BENGAL-EE-BIHARI EXCHANGE SHOULD BEGIN AT
SAME TIME. GOI, HE SAID, HAD GIVEN NO EXPLANATION FOR
DELAYING POW RETURN.

2. SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT GOP HAD EXPRESSED TO GOI ITS
EXPECTATION THAT ONCE POW REPATRIATION BEGINS, IT WOULD
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BE CARRIED OUT ON A REGULAR RATHER THAN INTERMITTENT

BASIS. PAK ARMY ADJUTANT GENERAL, HE SAID, WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET INDIAN COUNTERPART AT WAGAH ON SEPTEMBER 28 TO DISCUSS TEMPO OF REPATRIATION.

3. COMMENT: FOREGOING MAKES PUBLIC UNHAPPINESS THAT PAKS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSING PRIVATELY OVER NINE-DAY GAP BETWEEN BEGINNING OF BENGALIEE-BIHARI EXCHANGE AND RETURN OF FIRST POWS. IN ADDITION TO COMMENTS REPORTED REFTEL, MFA DIRGEN FOR SOUTH ASIA ABDUL SATTAR TOLD CHARGE SANDERHOFF SEPTEMBER 20 PAKS WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT BEGINNING OF POW REPATRIATION WAS LAGGING BEHIND MOVEMENT OF BENGALIEES OUT OF PAKISTAN. IN LATER CONVERSATION ON SAME SUBJECT, SATTAR SAID PAKS COULD NOT UNDERSTAND REASON FOR DELAY SINCE NEAREST POW CAMP WAS ONLY 300 MILES FROM INDO-PAK BORDER. SANDERHOFF

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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